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W E S T B R I D G E W A T E R

N E W S L E T T E R

April 1, 1945 Number 6

ERIO:

This greeting must be the result of the spring-like weather that
pped suddenly around the corner a week or so ago. The snow dis-
eared, the ground dried out, and the warm sun arrived so all-at-
e that no one yet really believes it has happened. But spring must
just about here, unless all signs have failed. The peepers are
ping, bicycles are out in full force (all over the roads, as usual),
eballs are flying around (do I need to mention broken windows?),
n meeting has come and gone with the usual interesting moments, bon-
es lurk in every back yard, the fire department races hither and yon
fires that are not so well behaved. The other day two high school
ls discovered a fire on North Elm Street just around the corner from
nson's garage. They dashed to a telephone and in no time at all
ie Bourne and his crew arrived and discouraged it. The buses are on
e again and the drivers are wondering if they dare take off their
lies yet. The winter raised havoc (that isn't the right word but
know what I mean) with the roads. Our new (or should I say re-
ed) road superintendent, Penprease, is busier than any one-armed
er hanger you ever saw. He gets one hole filled and two more show
to laugh at him.

The Red Cross drive is over, with this town way over the top as
al. The Victory Garden Committee has met and got things started for
ther season of backyard gardens. There is a seriousness and earnest-
s among people in general that makes the thinking person rather
imistic regarding the problems we are going to face for years to
e. The great mass of people are taking our little inconveniences in
ide, with a cheerfulness that speaks well for the soundness of our
ntry. People are thinking about and discussing the problems of our
ations with the world with an awareness that is greater even than
y used to give to their own local affairs. You folks, in all sect-
s of the earth, will find a ready willingness on the part of the home
ks to listen and profit by the thinking that you are doing about
se same problems.

"W H A T ' S T H E S C O R E"

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ORTS

Our bowling league, better known as the "gutter rolling quarante,"
in full flower this year. We pay thirty-six cents a week to the pro-
etor of the Maple Alleys, roll fifty out of seventy balls down the
tter and go home satisfied that we have spent a worthwhile afternoon.
ere are, however, a few good scores to our credit this year, the best
ing 119.

The annual South Shore Tournament was held last week at the Y.M.C.A.
vard was victorious over Norwell in the first game by a score of 34-
. In our second game, with Dartmouth, we lost by a score of 28-24.
is second game was a heartbreaker. We were leading in the first
arter and at the half we were trailing by a few points, never again
gaining our lead. This loss has special significance this year. It
ans that our championship cup won last year will have to be given up
Provincetown, the victor of this year's tournament. You see, the
p is given out temporarily, and a team has to win 3 tournaments before
quiring it permanently. However our team can wind up the season feel-
g that they have played some very good games and that they are really
w a much improved team from the beginning of the year.

H.S.

The plays have been selected, the casts chosen, and rehearsals
der-way for the one-act plays sponsored by the Junior Class. Trad-
ion is

being broken this year, however, by the addition of a fourth play, a diversion from the usual number which, if you remember, is three. The plays are "In the Mist"directed by Mr. Humphrey, English teecher; "A Pair of Lunatics" directed by Miss Rylander, foreign language teacher; and two parodies, "If Women Worked As Men Do" directed by Miss Dwyer and "If Men Played Cards as Women Do," directed by Miss Rylander.

The French classes are grateful to Miss Dwyer for bringing to school many interesting articles which she received from her sister in France. Among these articles were pictures of Mont St. Michel, two pairs of French sandals and a statue of Joan of Arc. Besides the fact that the process of display took up a little time in French period!!!, the articles were very much appreciated and interesting to examine.

The pussy-willows are purring, the bluebirds are singing, the water is lapping gently against the cellar stairs, and Mom continually cautions us to wipe the mud off our shoes, certainly all reminders thatt Spring is just around the corner.

Mr. Newton, a former English Teacher of H.H., is once more residing at his old home on Prospect Street. Although he is teaching in Wellesley he still thinks it best in this quiet little haven of peace called West Bridgewater.

The annual elections and town meeting brought out a number of large voters, and an unusually lively participation in activities. Ralph Frellick replaces James Hemenway on the Board of Selectmen and Paul Lundgren succeeds Roger Tracy on the School Board.

Recently the members of an organization aalled the A.U.Y. in our town put their heads together, and concocted a very interesting program for the "Youth" of West Bridgewater. This group has furnished the Unitarian Church Vestry with games, books, chairs, a coke bar, and a coke machine, (that thing where all your nickels go) for everybody's use. When you're home on leave and West Bridgewater seems livelier then usual, it's Saturday night and everybody's at the A.U.Y. "Youth Center" for an evening of "swell" fun.

Ordinarily when a baby is born, it is just an increase in our population, but when C. Warren Gardner Jr., the son of our social studies' teacher, enters this world, we are happy and joyous in the prospect that we will not be hit by the teacher shortage when Mr. Gardner becomes a retired man.

Mrs. Snow is putting on a musical assembly program with Betty Ryder, Theresa Seymour and Donald Davio as her committee. The program will consist of chorus singing, orchestra selections, vocalists and pianist..

The Seniors are now having pictures taken and are getting ready for graduation.

This year Mr. Humphrey, who is our new English teacher and an expert in the field of dramatics, is going to enter a one act play in the Somerville play tournament. This tournament is held annually for the schools in Southeastern Massachusetts; and a prize is awarded for the best presentation. Our play "The Flattering Word" promises to be a great success as it was in New York City a few years ago. The cast was chosen from different classes throughout the school.

Remember how we always used to pester the church people by "borrowing", come time for the Junior and Senior plays? Never again--Howard boys are building a set of footlights primarily for the play this spring. When [illegible] to the school.

The excellent Report of the Townes School Housing Committee seems to indicate that a new high school is more than a possibility--practically a possability.

"D I D Y O U K N O W"
??????????

Cpl. Thomas O'Shaughnessy now in the U.S; Army in France, is balleted in the same town in whcih his father was stationed after November 11, 1918. According to Tom's letter the town remains the same as we described to him except that the buildings appear not to have received a coat of paint since his father was there in 1918. Tom found the autographs of the 11th Field Artillery in the French town of Villaines. Cpl. O'Shaughnessy entered the Army in November, 1942.

Sgt. Raymond Pearson, home on furlough from the Medical Corps in New Zealand, received news of the birth of a daughter, Christine Ann in Auckland, New Zealand, March 12.

Lt. Francis Crowley is home on a 21 day leave after being overseas for 13 months. Crowley flew the movie plane "Mary Ann". Lt. Crowley graduated from Howard High School in 1936 and enlisted in the Air Corps in August, 1942.

S/Sgt. George E. Andrews was recently promoted from the rank of Sergeant being commended by the officer in charge of his section. He is a member of the 390th Bomb Group which has flown nearly 250 missions and is officially credited with the destruction of more than 400 enemy fighters in aerial combat.

Henry Kundricz, Crescent St., was recently given a farewell party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Minot Edson, West Center St. before his departure for the Army.

Erland C. Porter was the guest of honor at a farewell party at the home of his parents recently and is now training at Sampson.

Stanley L. Freeman has been inducted into the Navy as a Seaman,1/c He left Feb. 23 for Chicago where he will begin boot training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, after which he is to be assigned to a school for studying radar.

David Anderson is with the Fifth Marine Division in the South Pacif

Elwood Hall has passed all his tests in code to date is now learning to operate and repair the Liaison receiver and transmitter.

Bill Salvador is now stationed in California after having spent a recent furlough at home.

Wounded during the invasion of Saipan, Cpl. George Asack, U.S.M.C. arrived home recently on a 30-day convalescent leave from Shoemaker Naval Hospital, California. Before the end of that time he received his honorable discharge. Cpl. Asack, in the marines since 1942, has been awarded the Purple Heart and the Unit Presidential Citation. His brother Thomas is serving with the navy aboard an aircraft carrier in the Southwest Pacific.

Cpl. James W. Hodgson, who has been overseas six months, was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service in combat duty. He is assigned to Gen. Patton's Third Army, and is serving in a field artillery battalion.

Chief M.M. Russell Hamenway took part in the invasions of Leyte and Luzon, in which his ship downed the first plane.

Pfc. Eugene Fonsellaz is now a clerk in the Separation Center at Camp Dix, New Jersey, after three years in the service, 15 months of which were spent overseas in the Africa, Sicilian, and Italian campaigns. In connection with his work at Dix, Eugene will appear in a movie entitled "Discharged in 20 minutes." His sister Pfc. Dorothy Darling, Air Corps is stationed at Fort Totten, Long Island, where she works in the Operations Office.

Cpl. James Corbett of the 22nd Ordnance Division is stationed in New Caledonia. He was in the Solomons when the battle for those islands was in full swing, and although his job as a motor mechanic did not take him into the front lines he still had to duck a few bullets. Jim went hunting on a 24-hour pass but was not lucky enough to get a deer. Corbett has completed two years in the service.

Fl/c George Lothrop is now stationed at Norfolk, Virginia.

Aaron Kalaijian is stationed in U.S.N.H., Unit II, Corona, Calif.

Sailor "Bill" Browne, class of "43" at present is stationed somewhere in the South Pacific Area.

Harold L. Johnson has received a medical discharge from the Navy and is now home.

Wave Dorothy Finch has completed her basic training course at the Naval Training School in New York. She reports to Washington D.C. for further instructions.

Pvt, Ralph Miles is spending a ten day leave with his parents. He will report to Camp Houze, Texas after his leave.

Lt. Arthur Miles is now stationed in Boston. Cpl. Howard Miles is with the 20th Air Force in the Mariannas.

Jack Bemis was married to Miss Marie MacQuarrie of Stoughton, Rev. Leon Fay performing the ceremony at the Unitarian Church. Bemis has recently been given an honorable discharge from the Army.

"Bill" Brown has recently been promoted to Staff Sergeant from the rank of Pfc. He is stationed somewhere in Germany.

"S E R V I C E M E N ' S L E T T E R S"

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Pfc. Richard Baxter enlisted in the A.A.F. in February, 1944. Before leaving Ft. Devens he met Ashton Sears and Irving Steffin. Dick was based at Keesler Field and is now in a specialty school at Lowry Field, Colo. He would like to hear from his friends.

S/Sgt. "Manny" Fernandes wished to be remembered to his Cochesett pal

Charles F. Burroughs W.T. 2/c is training in Philadelphia.

Pvt. Bill Perry writes from Belgium that when driving through a German town recently he saw Elwood Baker on a passing truck. We will say "Hello Elwood" for Bill, and he wants "Jeep" Miner to look him up.

Cpl. Manuel Peters and Pfc. Leon Edmonston send "greetings" from Germany.

Russ Ripley MM 3/c---Thanks for your letter. How will West Bridgewater seem after all your travels?

WHO SAID JIM HEMENWAY H AD RETIRED? No one at West Bridgewater's Annual Town Meeting noticed it---in fact our retiring (?) Jim was about the liveliest person there. Who "moved" on at least fifty percent of all the business which came before the meeting? Jim Hemenway? Who did at least seventy-five percent of all the talking? Jim Hemenway? And who got at least ninety-five percent of all the laughs? You guess! Right the First time!

There were plenty of laughs to--- you know Town Meeting is really fun---Democracy in its truest sense. That means free speech for everyone and rankles barred as it were. The highlights of this meeting as far as fun and interest went were the arguments on building a new sidewalk on Copeland Street and the Town Treasurer's request for a raise.

Who moved to refuse the first request? Yup, J.H. He said that this really was not the time to build a sidewalk because it was impossible either to get the needed material or hire the labor to put it in. Well of course Jim had a point there---two of them in fact. Of course Mr. Carrigan, who next claimed the floor, had a point too when he reminded the gathering that he had lived on Matfield Street for twenty-six years and it had NEVER been the right time to build a sidewalk as far as Jim was concerned. but that they now had one in spite of it's never being the right time, etc, etc; and it was a good one! Jim parried that with an account of driving recently on Matfield Street where, he declared, the people still walked in the middle of the road walk 'or no walk. Well, remarks both serious and witty flew back and forth for a few minutes but even the citizens demanding the walk admitted that this year was probably not the right time to build it and Jim's motion to reject the article was carried with no feeling of ill-will on either side.

The only other article refused was the request of Town Treasurer Orvis Kinney for a fifty percent increase in pay. This sounds like a lot but Orvis put up a good plea for himself declaring that he put in at least thirty-two hours plus all the responsibility entailed in handling the treasurer's job. It sounded quite reasonable but was immediately opposed---yup Papa Hemenway again, guarding the old Home-Town funds. He said all the town employees had been voted a fifteen percent increase. This included the Treasurer and he (Jim) opined that if fifteen percent was enough for the rest of the gang, fifteen percent was enough for Orvis. He also declared in no uncertain terms that if Orvis didn't like it he should, quote DO AS I DID---GET OUT! unquote. And did THAT get a laugh!! Of course Orvis didn't take this laying down---he fought for his raise valiantly and pretty convincingly too as the close vote of 61 to 66 showed. No Orvis didn't win!

Of the other articles in the warrant, the most important was the one for appointing a special building committee to secure information and make plans for a new Junior-Senior High School. It was carried enthusiastically. Wonder what would have happened had Papa H. not approved? Well, your guess is probably right.

But it was a swell meeting---a true demonstration of this democracy, about which we hear so much, at work. As long as the good old U.S. has its town meetings with their good natured, but none the less real, arguments it seems as if we don't have to worry too much about whether or not this system of ours works. WE KNOW IT DOES!!!

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A few editions back, you boys were asked to send in names for this newssheet. What a response you made! Names came in from practically all over the map and they were almost all good too! Some had to be eliminated because they were already popular with other sheets and for various other reasons. The list has been whittled down to:

1. West Bridgewater Buzz
2. Home Beams
3. The Link
4. W. Bridgewater News Letter
5. Home Town News
6. West Bridgewater Echo
7. News Snaps
8. Home Happenings

From this list it will be up to you to choose the winner. How about it? What'll we name the baby? Send your votes in as soon as possible.

News Committee

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